

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 17-45 are in the application. The above amendments are made to eliminate all multi-dependencies in order to reduce the government filing fee and to otherwise improve the form of the claims for U.S. practice.

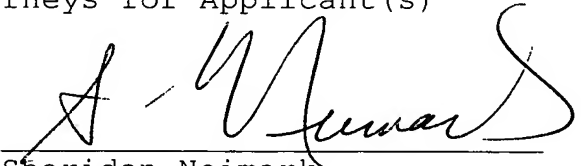
The amendments made above are made entirely without prejudice, the applicants respectively reserving their right to add claims at a later stage commensurate in scope with the claims which may have been eliminated by the removal of all multi-dependencies. Regardless, the amendments made above are not "narrowing" amendments. The scope of the claims has not been reduced; no limitations have been added and none are intended.

Applicants respectfully await the results of a first examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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